



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

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Two Spartanburg County Men Plead Guilty to Unemployment Insurance Fraud

Two Spartanburg County men have pled guilty to unemployment insurance fraud.

On June 25, 2012, Jimmie Dillard, 58, and Raymond Whiteside, 38, pleaded guilty to making a false statement or misrepresentation. Both Dillard and Whiteside were sentenced to three years, suspended to three years probation. Dillard was ordered to pay \$11,780, and Whiteside was ordered to pay \$14,133 restitution to the SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW). Both men also agreed to pay a civil penalty in addition to their criminal guilty pleas in Spartanburg County.

Between Feb. 22, 2009, and July 16, 2010, Whiteside received unemployment benefits to which he was not entitled by certifying to DEW that he was unemployed and not earning any wages. However, an investigation found that he had been gainfully employed during this time period and knowingly failed to notify DEW of his wages.

Dillard fictitiously created the name of the employer Trent Landscaping in order to make the claim that he had been working for the company and applied for benefits. He falsified wage reports and submitted them to DEW. As a result, Dillard received unemployment benefits between Dec. 30, 2009, and Aug. 16, 2010 to which he was not entitled.

The case was investigated by DEW and prosecuted by the S.C. Attorney General's Office.

To report suspected unemployment insurance fraud, call DEW at 803.737.2490. Callers can remain anonymous.

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